

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A scalable protection method for connection oriented networks includes a source, a destination, and primary nodes interconnected by working path segments between the source and destination. A point-to-multipoint connection with multiple destinations and additional primary nodes is also supported. Each of a number of backup nodes is interconnected with an associated primary node by pre-provisioned shunt segments, and the backup nodes are interconnected among themselves by pre-provisioned protection path segments. Upon occurrence of a failure, the primary node upstream of the failure directs input traffic to a shunt segment, and the backup node associated with the upstream primary node directs traffic from the shunt segment to an output protection segment. Downstream of the failure, a backup node directs traffic from an input protection segment to a shunt segment, and the primary node associated with the backup node directs the traffic from the shunt segment to a downstream working segment. In this manner, traffic is routed around failures via local switching operations.

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